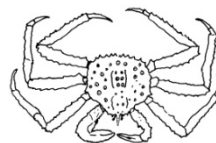

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Joe Stratman

Phone: (907) 772-5238
Fax: (907) 772-9336

Petersburg Area Office
P.O. Box 667
Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Date: February 19, 2012
Time: 4:00 p.m.

COMMERCIAL GOLDEN KING CRAB ANNOUNCEMENT EAST CENTRAL AREA CLOSURE DATE

Petersburg . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the commercial golden (brown) king crab fishery in the East Central Area will close at 11:59 pm on **Wednesday, February 22, 2012**.

Based on an analysis of effort levels and harvest projections, the harvest as of the closure date is expected to reach the 260,000-pound GHL for the East Central Area. The department will continue to monitor golden king crab harvest levels in the remaining six open areas. Permit holders are reminded that call-in requirements remain in effect for all current registrants. Permit holders are also requested to notify the department when they change areas or cease fishing.

A vessel may leave gear in a stored condition for five days after the closure of a portion of Registration Area A [5 AAC 34.127(2)]. All gear must be removed from the East Central Area no later than 11:59 pm on Monday, February 27, 2012. A table showing harvest by fishing area will appear in a future news release.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0512.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADFG	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3255

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